

Application No. 10/771,969
Amdt. dated October 25, 2004
Reply to Office action of May 24, 2004

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to replace application serial numbers with the appropriate issued patent numbers.

Claims 81 and 92 have been amended. New claims 101-110 have been added. No new matter has been added. Claims 81-100 are pending in the application. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 88, 89, 99 and 100 contain allowable subject matter.

Objection to the Specification

The disclosure was objected to with respect to the listing of patent application serial numbers on page 2 of the specification. The specification on page 2 has been amended to recite the patent numbers for those applications that have issued. Applicants request that this objection be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Bornhoeft et al.

Claims 81-87 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over selected portions of Applicants' specification in view of Bornhoeft et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,049,440). The Office Action asserts that the selected portions of Applicants' specification disclose that rolls of wet wipes with perforated sheets was "state of the art," and that Bornhoeft et al. discloses the use of a salt on wet wipes. The Office Action further asserts that it would have been obvious to combine the salt of Bornhoeft et al. with the known rolls of wipes, that it would have been obvious to adjust the size of the wet wipes, and that these combinations and adjustments would provide the roll of wet wipes as claimed.

The rejection of claims 81-87 has been obviated by appropriate amendment. As amended, claim 81 recites a salt solution comprising more than 1 weight percent salt. The amendment to claim 81 is supported by the disclosure of U.S. Patent No.

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6,444,214, which has been incorporated by reference to its application of serial no. 09/564,939 (page 2, lines 7-13). This patent discloses wet wipes having a wetting solution containing more than 1 percent by weight of salt (col. 38, lines 17-35). In contrast, Bornhoeft et al. does not disclose, teach or suggest a salt solution having more than 1 weight percent salt. Rather, Bornhoeft et al. discloses a preservative composition for wet wipes having a concentration of about 0.1 weight percent to about 0.9 weight percent salt (col. 4, lines 26-38). The Office Action asserted that Bornhoeft et al. discloses the desirability of the use of salt. However, this disclosure of desirability is limited to the amount of salt useful for increasing the efficacy of organic acid ingredients, and does not teach or suggest that higher salt concentrations are desirable. Thus, there is no suggestion or motivation in the reference to use more than 1 weight percent salt.

The selected portions of Applicants' specification and Bornhoeft et al., alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest each and every element of the claims. Accordingly, claims 81-87 are not obvious over Bornhoeft et al., alone or in combination with Applicants' specification. Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Bornhoeft et al. in view of Nissing et al.

Claims 90-98 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over selected portions of Applicants' specification in view of Bornhoeft et al. and Nissing et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,623,834). The Office Action asserts that Nissing et al. discloses the use of transverse grooves in wet wipes, and that the combination of these grooves with the rolls of wet wipes resulting from the combination of Bornhoeft et al. with known rolls of wet wipes would provide the roll of wet wipes as claimed.

The rejection of claims 90-98 over selected portions of Applicants' specification in view of Bornhoeft et al. and Nissing et al. has been obviated by appropriate amendment. As amended, claim 92 recites a salt solution comprising more than 1

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weight percent salt. Claims 90-91 depend from amended claim 81 and thus also include a salt solution comprising more than 1 weight percent salt. As noted above, the selected portions of Applicants' specification and Bornhoeft et al., alone or in combination, do not disclose, teach, or suggest a roll of wet wipes having a salt solution comprising more than 1 weight percent salt. Nissing et al. does not disclose, teach or suggest, nor does the Office Action assert that Nissing et al. discloses, teaches or suggests wet wipes having a salt solution. The selected portions of Applicants' specification and Bornhoeft et al., alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest each and every element of the claims. Accordingly, claims 90-98 are not obvious over Bornhoeft et al. or Nissing et al., alone or in combination with Applicants' specification. Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

New Claims

New claims 101-110 are supported by claims 81 and 92 as originally filed, by the present specification, and by U.S. Patent No. 6,444,214 ('214), the disclosure of which has been incorporated by reference, as noted above. Specifically, claims 101 and 106 are supported by '214 at least at col. 60, line 52 – col. 61, line 22 and in Example 7. Claims 102 and 107 are supported by '214 at least at col. 28, lines 14-27. Claims 103 and 108 are supported by '214 at least at col. 10, lines 35-65. Claims 104 and 109 are supported by '214 at least at col. 28, lines 14-27, col. 60, line 52 – col. 61, line 22, in Example 7, 10, 18, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 30 and 34, and by the present specification at least at page 19, line 28 – page 20, line 4. Claims 105 and 110 are supported by '214 at least at col. 10, lines 30-55.

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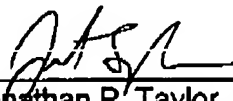
Conclusion

In conclusion, all of the grounds raised in the outstanding Office Action for rejecting the application are believed to be overcome or rendered moot based on the remarks above. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently presented claims are in form for allowance, and such action is requested in due course. Should the Examiner feel a discussion would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned.

Also submitted at this time is a Petition for Extension of Time for two (2) months.

Respectfully submitted,

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